

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Alkali metal chlorates are produced by electrolyzing an anolyte contained in an anode compartment of an electrolytic cell, the anode and cathode compartments
5 separated by means of a permselective membrane having low alkali metal ion transport efficiency. The final chlorate product can be directly crystallized from the electrolyzed anolyte or fed directly to a chlorine dioxide generator. Alternatively, a microporous, hydrophilic diaphragm can be substituted for the permselective membrane provided that the catholyte compartment is maintained at a higher hydraulic
10 pressure than the hydraulic pressure in the anolyte compartment.